Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION FBO-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 A-01 SY-04 OC-06 CCO-00 /023 W

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R 031956Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5756

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

CONFIDENTIAL NASSAU 1205

E. O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: ABLD ACOM AFSP ASEC

SUBJ: REQUIREMENT FOR SHIELDED ENCLOSURE, INDEPENDENT AIR-CONDITIONING, AND EMERGENCY POWER FOR COMMUNICATIONS

REF: (A) NASSAU 80; (B) NASSAU A-22; (C) NASSAU 902

SANTO DOMINGO FOR RSO

- 1. REPLACEMENT PART FOR LANDLORD'S GENERATOR (DESCRIBED REF A) WAS FINALLY RECEIVED AND INSTALLED JUNE 19. INITIAL EXPERIENCE WITH GENERATOR (WHICH HAD BEEN INOPERABLE SINCE EMBASSY OCCUPIED IN NOVEMBER 1973) HAS PROVEN VERY UNSATISFACTORY.
- 2. NEW TRANSFER BOX WAS TO HAVE MADE GENERATOR OPERATION AUTO-MATIC UPON POWER FAILURE. HOWEVER, GENERATOR IS TOO SMALL TO HANDLE FULL POWER LOAD OF BUILDING AND AUTOMATIC FEATURES WILL NOT ACCEPT OVER-LOAD, THUS REQUIRING MANUAL ACTIVATION OF UNIT. BUILDING OWNER HAS ADVISED EMBASSY THAT GENERATOR WILL SUPPORT ONLY LIGHTING AND ELECTRIC TYPEWRITERS (ALTHOUGH VOLTAGE WAS TOO LOW DURING INITIAL EXPERIENCE TO SUPPORT SUCH TYPEWRITERS). GENERATOR WILL DEFINITELY NOT PROVIDE SUFFICIENT POWER TO OPERATE DISINTEGRATOR.
- 3. EMBASSY'S TELETYPE (INCLUDING TELEX) AND EMERGENCY RADIO EQUIPMENT REQUIRE CONSTANT 110 VOLT CURRENT FOR OPERATION. LOW VOLTAGE PRODUCED BY GENERATOR MADE OPERATION OF THIS EQUIPMENT IMPOSSIBLE. BUILDING OWNER STATES LOW VOLTAGE PROBLEM HAS BEEN SOLVED BUT NO TEST HAS YET BEEN MADE TO VERIFY CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT STATEMENT. EMBASSY FEELS THAT OVER-LOAD SITUATION CAUSED

BY 40 KW UNIT BEING ONLY EMERGENCY POWER SOURCE FOR ENTIRE BUILDING MAKES ABILITY TO MAINTAIN VOICE AND RECORD COMMUNICATIONS DURING POWER FAILURES QUESTIONABLE.

- 4. LACK OF AIR CONDITIONING CAPABILITY DURING POWER FAILURES CONTINUES TO BE A SOURCE OF CONCERN. IN ADDITION TO DISCOMFORT CAUSED BY HIGH TEMPERATURE, LACK OF ANY SORT OF VENTILATION RESULTS IN STALE AIR REMAINING IN COMMUNICATIONS VAULT AREA. EVEN IF LOW VOLTAGE PROBLEM IS SOLVED AND EQUIPMENT CAN BE OPERATED, C&R PERSONNEL WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO WORK FOR ANY SUSTAINED PERIOD UNDER SUCH CONDITIONS.
- 5. BASED ON UNDERSTANDING THAT A SHIELDED ENCLOSURE WOULD BE INSTALLED IN 1974 (PARA 1 REF B) A SMALL "PRIVACY ROOM" WAS CONSTRUCTED IN THE COMMUNICATIONS AREA AS AN INTERIM MEASURE. IF SUCH AN INSTALLATION WILL NOT, IN FACT, TAKE PLACE THIS YEAR, THE EMBASSY FEELS THAT THIS PRIVACY ROOM WILL HAVE TO BE ENLARGED. THIS WOULD BE A RELATIVELY MINOR ALTERATION, REQUIRING THE MOVE OF THE TWO PARTITIONS WHICH FORM THE ROOM.
- 6. ACTION REQUESTED: EITHER (A) THE EARLY INSTALLATION OF A SHIELDED ENCLOSURE (WITH ANCILLARY INDEPENDENT AIR-CONDITION-ING SYSTEM AND EMERGENCY POWER SUPPLY), OR (B) PROCUREMENT AND INSTALLATION OF A SEPARATE, INDEPENDENT AIR-CONDITIONING SYSTEM (AND A GENERATOR TO SUPPORT IT) FOR THE C&R SECTION.

7. PLEASE ADVISE. SPIERS

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Reference: (A) NASSAU 80; (B) NASSAU A-22; (C), NASSAU 902 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: shawdg

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TAGS: ABLD, ACOM, AFSP, ASEC

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